

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ABF-01 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 DRC-01 /121 W

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FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3968

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 2024

FROM USREP ICAO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, CA

SUBJ: ICAO - COST OF NEW BUILDING

REF: A-15, OCTOBER 5, 1973, FI/WP 458

1. FOLLOWING SHOULD BE TREATED WITH UTMOST DISCRETION. ICAO DIRECTOR OF FINANCE (US CITIZEN) CAME TO MISSION OFFICE AFTER HOURS OCT 12 ON VERGE OF RESIGNING BECAUSE OF MEETING HELD DURING DAY BETWEEN ICAO SECRETARIAT AND MINISTRY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS CANADIAN GOVERNMENT. PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING WAS TO "PUT THE BITE ON" THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT FOR A SIZEABLE PORTION OF THE INCREASED COST OF THE "PREOCCUPANCY COSTS OF THE NEW PREMISES". (FI/WP 458). ACCORDING TO HIS REPORT, IN THE MEETING IT WAS INDICATED TO THE GOC THAT UGLY AND DETRIMENTAL DISCUSSIONS MIGHT TAKE PLACE IN ICAO FINANCE COMMITTEE AND IN THE COUNCIL, IF THIS MATTER WERE NOT AT LEAST PARTIALLY RECONCILED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE INDICATED (AND THIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN) THAT PROPER CONSIDERATION OF WORKING PAPER THIS SUBJECT WILL BE DELAYED IN COMING BEFORE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN HOPE OF FINDING PARTIAL SOLUTION.

2. ALTHOUGH FINANCIAL DIRECTOR CAN ARRANGE FOR COPING WITH MAJOR PORTION DIFFERENTIAL, THIS REQUIRES "SQUEEZING" ALL AVAIL-
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ABLE LIQUID ASSETS. ANOTHER CONCERN IS THE OBVIOUS FACT THAT NEW BUILDING IS ONE YEAR TO ONE AND A HALF YEARS AWAY FROM

COMPLETION. IF COSTS ARE RUNNING IN ARREARS BY \$1 MILLION AT THIS POINT, IT IS TO BE EXPECTED THAT THE SITUATION WILL RECUR. IF THAT HAPPENS, SOONER OR LATER A SUPPLEMENTAL ASSESSMENT ON STATES MUST BE CONSIDERED. USREP SUGGESTS REVIEW OF TERMS OF THREE-WAY COMMITMENTS; THAT IS, RESPONSIBILITIES OF ICAO (MEMBER STATES), GOC, DEVELOPER; DOING SAME IN US MISSION. REMINDER: PREVIOUS USREP CHAIRED COMMITTEE ON NEW BUILDING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MONTRE02024
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS LAGASSE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MONTREAL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731029/aaaaavmh.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A-15, OCTOBER 5, 1973, FI/WP 458
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24-Oct-2001 by golinofr>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2001 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ICAO - COST OF NEW BUILDING
TAGS: ETRN, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005